

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OECD P 05128 201233Z

44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 STR-04 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

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PASS STR FOR POMERANZ

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, OECD

SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT PURCHASING

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER DATED FEB. 17, 1976 FROM
OECD SECRETARY GENERAL VAN LENNEP TO EACH HEAD OF
DELEGATION:
BEGIN TEXT

AT THE RECENT MEETING OF THE TRADE COMMITTEE, THERE
WAS AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE FUTURE DIRECTION TO
BE TAKEN BY WORK IN THE OECD ON GOVERNMENT PURCHASING.
THE COMMITTEE NOTED THAT SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS HAD BEEN
MADE TOWARDS THE PREPARATION OF A DRAFT INSTRUMENT AND
THAT THERE WAS, MOREOVER, A CLEAR DETERMINATION TO REACH
A SOLUTION TO THOSE QUESTIONS WHICH REMAINED UNRESOLVED.

IT WAS HOWEVER APPARENT AT THIS STAGE OF THE WORK
THAT THE MATTERS STILL OUTSTANDING REQUIRED POLICY
RATHER THAN TECHNICAL CONSIDERATION, WHICH SHOULD TAKE
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PAGE 02 OECD P 05128 201233Z

PLACE AT A SUITABLE LEVEL WITHIN GOVERNMENTS AND COULD

BE ASSISTED BY INFORMAL CONTACTS BETWEEN THE PARTICIPANTS, IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY GUIDANCE TO BRING THE WORK TO FRUITION.

INDEED SUCH CONSIDERATION AND CONSULTATION MAY NEED A LITTLE TIME TO PRODUCE RESULTS; THE COMMITTEE HOWEVER POINTED OUT THAT THE NECESSARY DECISIVE IMPETUS SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE WORK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, IF THE RISK OF LOSING THE BENEFIT OF THE SUBSTANTIAL RESULTS ALREADY ACHIEVED WERE TO BE AVOIDED. IN FACT, THE COMMITTEE DECIDED TO CONSIDER THE OUTCOME OF THIS PROCEDURE AT ITS NEXT MEETING, TO BE HELD AT THE END OF JUN. THE WORKING PARTY OF THE COMMITTEE WILL MEET SHORTLY BEFOREHAND, IN ORDER TO TAKE STOCK OF THE POSITION AND PREPARE THE GROUND FOR THE COMMITTEE'S DISCUSSIONS. THE COMMITTEE HAS INSTRUCTED THE SECRETARIAT, IN THE MEANTIME, TO KEEP INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS, TO ACT AS A LINK BETWEEN DELEGATIONS AND TO BE AVAILABLE TO FACILITATE CONSULTATION BETWEEN THEM.

THE COMMITTEE HAS REQUESTED ME TO BRING THESE CONCLUSIONS TO YOUR NOTICE IN ORDER TO ENLIST YOUR COOPERATION IN ENSURING THAT THEY ARE GIVEN FULL ATTENTION IN CAPITALS AND THAT THE SECRETARIAT IS ABLE TO OBTAIN ALL NECESSARY INFORMATION IN THIS RESPECT.

END TEXT

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